



EAST BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

32 Union Street

East Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02333

Tel 508-378-1616 Fax 508-378-1617

Virginia K. Johnson, *Director of Library Services*

Service Animal Policy

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), service animals are welcomed at the East Bridgewater Public Library. Per ADA, service animals are dogs individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. For details, please see [ADA requirements for service animals](#). We also include service animals that assist in improving the literacy skills of children (i.e. *Tail Waggin' Tutors*). Animals not covered under the ADA Service Animal definition can be asked to leave East Bridgewater Public Library.

In order to help maintain a pleasant, productive, and safe environment for all Library users and staff, the following behavioral guidelines for service animals are to be observed:

- Service animals must be in physical proximity with their handler and under handler control at all times.
- Service animals may not be left unattended by their handler at any time.
- Service animals must be on a leash or harness at all times unless the use of a leash or harness interferes with the animal's effective performance of its designated task(s). If the animal cannot be leashed or harnessed, it must be under the handler's control via voice, signals, or other effective means at all times.
- Service animals must not display disruptive behavior such as barking and growling and must conform to Public Library's Policies regarding behavior. Please see <http://eastbridgewaterlibrary.org/policies>.
- Service animals must be housebroken and their handler is responsible for any upkeep or clean-up of the animal.

NOTE: If a service animal's behaviors or actions pose an unreasonable or direct threat to the health or safety of others, or do not conform to these guidelines, it may not remain in the Library. In accordance with ADA guidelines, non-compliance of guidelines can be grounds for a request to remove a service animal. If the service animal is excluded, the individual with the disability is welcomed to stay and will be reasonably accommodated by Library staff. Questions related to the use of service animals should be directed to the Library Director (508) 378-1616 x101.

Voted by the Board of Library Trustees 27 November 2017